

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: )  
 )  
Martina WICHER et al )  
 )  
Serial No. )  
 )  
Filed: herewith )  
 )  
For: Support Material For )  
Recording Layers )

Examiner:

Art Unit:

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Name ARMANDO CHANG  
(typed or printed)

Signature Armando Chang

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the examination in the above captioned application which has been filed concurrently herewith, please amend the application as follows:

In the Abstract:

Line 2, delete "said" and insert --and the--.

Line 8, delete "some".

Line 9, delete "and" and insert --to--.

In the Specification:

On page 1, line 14 (of the text), delete ",with" and insert --causing--.

On page 3, line 8, delete "synthetical" and insert --synthetic--.

On page 3, lines 14 and 24, delete "and" and insert --to--.

On page 11, line 4, delete "programme" and insert --program--.

On page 12, second to last line, delete "10,7" and insert --10.7--.

On page 12, last line, delete "24,3" and insert --24.3--, and delete "29,7" and insert --29.7--.

**In the Claims:**

Amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Once Amended) Support material coated on at least one side with a synthetic resin, containing a raw paper provided at least on the front side with a pigment coating, wherein the pigment coating contains at least about 5% by weight of a pigment having particles with a narrow grain distribution, whereby at least about 70% of [these] the pigment particles [feature] have a size of less than about 1 $\mu$ m and at least 40% by weight of [these] the particles [feature] have a grain size of 0.35 to 0.8 $\mu$ m.

In claim 7, line 2, delete "is" and insert --has--.

Amend claims 11 and 14 as follows:

11. (Once Amended) Process for the manufacture of a support material coated on at least one side with a synthetic resin, containing a raw paper provided at least on the front side with a pigment coating, [wherein] applying the coating containing at least one pigment [is applied] on the front side of a raw paper, [and the pigment features a narrow grain size distribution, that the pigment coating contains] at least about 5% by weight of [a] the pigment having particles with a narrow grain distribution, whereby at least about 70% of [these] the pigment particles [feature] have a size of less than about  $1\mu\text{m}$ , and at least 40% by weight of [these] the particles [feature] have a grain size of 0.35 [and] to  $0.8\mu\text{m}$ , and applying a resin [is applied] on the side of the raw paper coated with the pigment, by extrusion, at a speed of up to 600 m/min.

14. (Once Amended) Support material for an ink-jet recording sheet comprising a raw paper provided at least on the front side with a pigment coating, wherein the pigment coating contains at least about 5% by weight of a pigment having particles with a narrow grain distribution, whereby at least about 70% of [these] the pigment particles [feature] have a size of less than about  $1\mu\text{m}$  and at least 40% by weight of [these] the particles [feature] have a grain size of 0.35 to  $0.8\mu\text{m}$ .

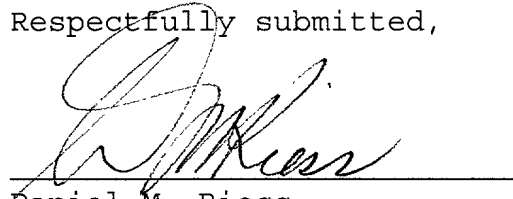
In claim 19, line 2, delete "is" and insert --has--.

REMARKS

The above amendments have been made for spelling or grammatic reasons and are not intended to alter the scope of the invention in any aspect.

Early examination and allowance are solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D. M. Riess', is written over a horizontal line.

Daniel M. Riess  
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Date: February 16, 2001

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